

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 5-7 are requested to be cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1 and 14 are currently being amended. No new matter has been added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4, 8, 12, 14, 16-20, and 22-24 are now pending in this application.

1. Rejection of Claims 1-8, 12, 14, and 16-19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 1 as Failing to Comply With the Written Description Requirement

In section 1 of the Office Action, claims 1-8, 12, 14, and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 1 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner stated:

The specification as originally filed does not disclose the newly recited claim limitations of claims 1 and 14 in the last 2 lines “display drivers capable of updating screen resolution and screen display size based on the current expansion of the display screen” and “the processor is configured with display drivers to update display resolution and screen display size based upon the current expansion state of the flexible and expandable display.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion and point out that originally filed claim 11 (now canceled) recites “[t]he display system of claim 10, wherein the display system includes drivers capable of updating screen resolution and screen display size based upon the current expansion of the display screen.” Applications further reference paragraphs [0037]-[0039] of the originally filed specification for additional support of the above-cited limitation.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 14 comply with the written description requirement and request that the rejection of independent claims 1 and 14, and corresponding depending claims 2-4, 12, and 16-19, under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 1 be withdrawn.

2. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 8, 12, 14, and 16-19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as Being Unpatentable Over Takahiro in View of Koenig

In section 4 of the Office Action, Claims 1-4, 8, 12, 14, and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahiro (Publ. No. 2001-091268) in view of Koenig (U.S. Publ. Patent Appl. No. 2002/0021258). For the reasons that follow, Applicants submit that the cited references fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation in each of the rejected claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination including, among other elements, “wherein the visual display is physically separable and detachable from the processing unit while displaying information according to communications from the processing unit between the visual display transceiver and the processing unit transceiver, the display screen is flexible and expandable, the display system includes display drivers capable of updating screen resolution and screen display size based upon the current expansion of the display screen, and the processing unit is a handheld device,” which is not taught or suggested by Takahiro or Koenig, alone or in any proper combination. Takahiro discloses a portable navigation display in communication with an “on-vehicle navigation base device.” Takahiro does not disclose a visual display physically separable from a processing unit while displaying information, where the processing unit is a handheld device. The processing unit in Takahiro is an “on-vehicle navigation base device.” Koenig discloses multiple display screens attached to a handheld device such that the screens may be configured relative to each other so that one or more of the display screens may be viewed simultaneously. However, Koenig does not teach or suggest any desirability of providing a display that is physically separable and detachable from a processing unit, where the processing unit is a handheld device and the display is flexible and expandable. Therefore, Applicants submit that Takahiro and Koenig, alone or in any proper combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection of independent claim 1, and corresponding dependent claims 2-4, 8, and 12, be withdrawn.

Claim 14 has been amended to recite, among other elements, “a detachable display system” and a “processor,” wherein “the display system includes a flexible and expandable screen display, and the processor is a handheld device,” which is not taught or suggested by Takahiro or Koenig, alone or in any proper combination. As stated above with respect to claim 1, Takahiro discloses a portable navigation display in communication with an “on-vehicle navigation base device.” Takahiro does not disclose a processor and a detachable display system, where the processor is a handheld device. The processor in Takahiro is an “on-vehicle navigation base device.” Koenig discloses multiple display screens attached to a handheld device such that the screens may be configured relative to each other so that one or more of the display screens may be viewed simultaneously. However, Koenig does not teach or suggest any desirability of providing a detachable display and a processor, where the processor is a handheld device and the display is flexible and expandable. Therefore, Applicants submit that Takahiro and Koenig, alone or in any proper combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of claim 14. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection of independent claim 14, and corresponding dependent claims 16-19, be withdrawn.

3. Rejection of Claims 5-7, 20, and 22-24 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as Being Unpatentable Over Nahi et al. in View of Takahiro and Koenig

In section 5 of the Office Action, claims 5-7, 20, and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nahi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,084,585) in view of Takahiro and Koenig. Claims 5-7 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 20 recites a combination including, among other elements, “wherein the first display unit and the second display unit may be interchangeably attached to and detached from the processing unit and the processing unit is a handheld computing device and the first display unit is a non-flexible display unit and the second display unit is at least one of a flexible display unit and a foldable display unit,” which is not taught or suggested by Nahi et al., Takahiro, and Koenig, alone or in any proper combination. The Office Action admits that

“Nahi does not disclose that the display system is interchangeably attached to and detached from a handheld computing device (processing unit),” but asserts that “[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Nahi by having a display system be interchangeably attached to and detached from a handheld computing device, as in the invention of Takahiro.”

Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion and point out that Takahiro does not disclose a system “having a display system [] interchangeably attached to and detached from a handheld computing device” as stated in the Office Action. Takahiro discloses a portable display detachable from an on-vehicle navigation base device. Koenig also fails to teach or suggest a display system that may be attached to or detached from a handheld computing device. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Nahi et al., Takahiro, and Koenig, alone or in any proper combination, fail to teach or suggest at least one limitation of independent claim 20. Applicants therefore request that the rejection of independent claim 20, and corresponding dependent claims 22-24, be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

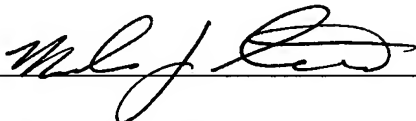
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 4/24/2006

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 26371  
Telephone: (414) 319-7306  
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

By 

Matthew J. Swietlik  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 58,428